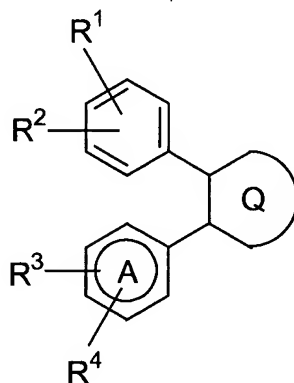
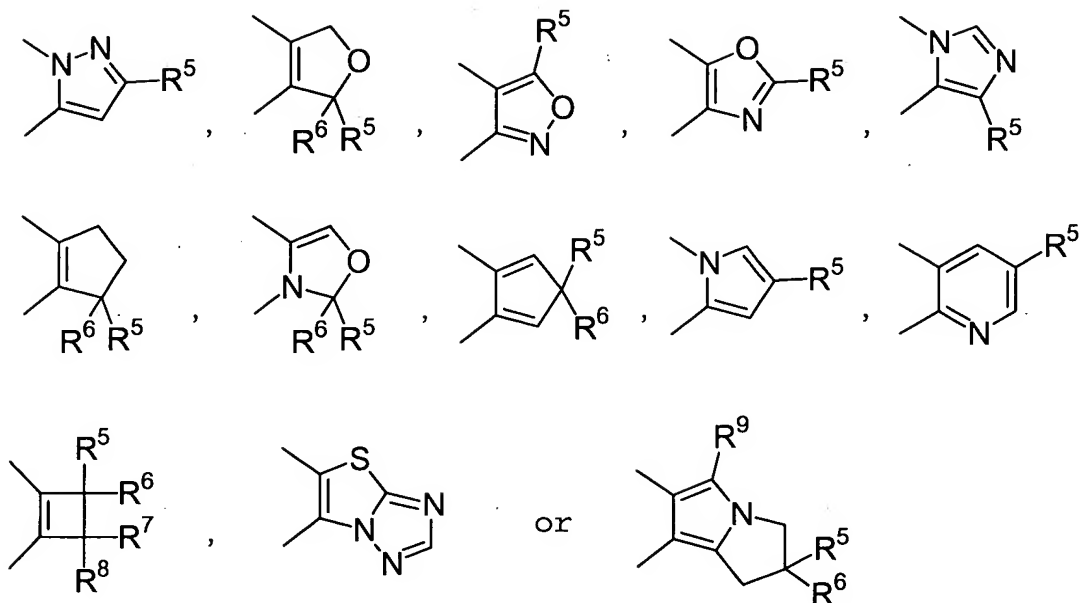


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

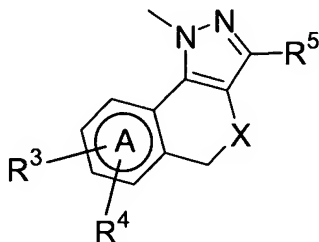
Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of opening a large conductance calcium-activated K channel in a mammal in need thereof comprising administering to said mammal a large
~~conductance calcium-activated K channel opener comprising a~~
 compound of the formula (I):



wherein R¹ is a halogen, aminosulfonyl, an alkylsulfonyl or an alkanoylamino sulfonyl; R² is hydrogen or a halogen; R³ and R⁴ may be the same or different from each other and each is hydrogen, a halogen, an alkyl or an alkoxy; Ring A is benzene, pyridine or a cycloalkane, and Ring Q is



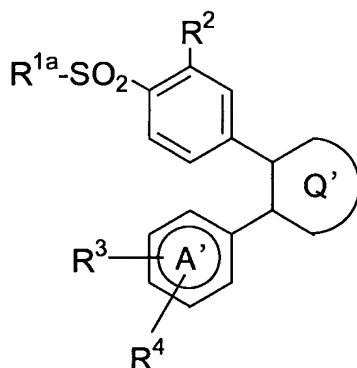
where R⁵ is a halogen, an alkyl or a haloalkyl; R⁶ is hydrogen or an alkyl; or R⁵ and R⁶ may be combined to each other to form oxo; R⁷ and R⁸ are hydrogen or may be combined to each other to form oxo; and R⁹ is a carboxyalkyl, or Ring Q and Ring A may be combined to each other to form a fused ring of the formula:



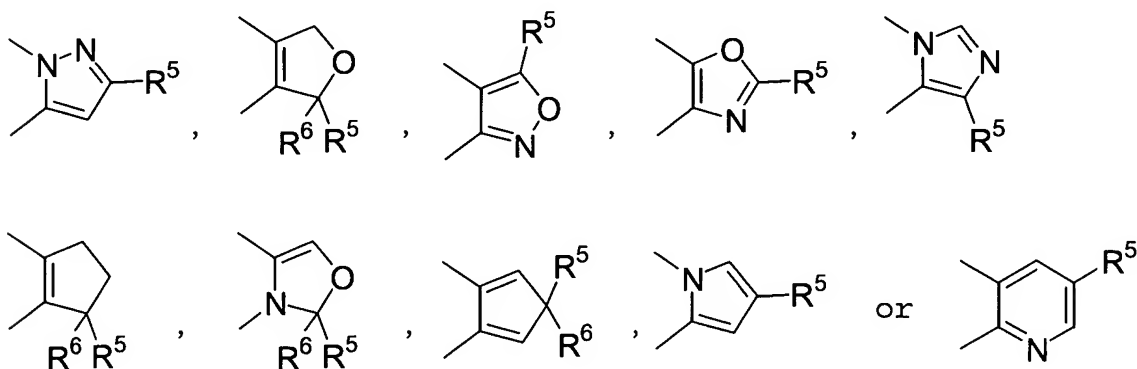
where X is sulfur atom or oxygen atom, and R³, R⁴ and R⁵ have the same meanings as defined above,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) ~~The large conductance calcium-activated K-channel opener~~ method according to Claim 1, wherein the opener contains a compound of the formula (II):



wherein R^{1a} is amino, an alkyl or an alkanoylamino; R^2 is hydrogen or a halogen; R^3 and R^4 may be the same or different from each other and each is hydrogen, a halogen, an alkyl or an alkoxy; Ring A' is benzene or a cycloalkane, and Ring Q' is



where R⁵ is a halogen, an alkyl or a haloalkyl; R⁶ is hydrogen or an alkyl; or R⁵ and R⁶ may be combined to each other to form oxo,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The ~~large-conductance-calcium-activated K-channel opener~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the opener contains a compound selected from the group consisting of

- (1) celecoxib,
- (2) rofecoxib,
- (3) valdecoxib,
- (4) parecoxib,
- (5) tilmacoxib,
- (6) 4-(4-chloro-5-(3-fluoro-4-methoxyphenyl)imidazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide,
- (7) 2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-((4-methylsulfonyl)phenyl)-2-cyclopenten-1-one,
- (8) 1-fluoro-4-(2-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-1-cyclopenten-1-yl)benzene,
- (9) 4-(5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl)benzenesulfonamide,
- (10) 4-(2-methyl-4-phenyloxazol-5-yl)benzenesulfonamide,

- (11) 4-(2-oxo-3-phenyl-2,3-dihydroxazol-4-yl)benzenesulfonamide,
- (12) 1-(3,3-dimethyl-5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)cyclopenta-1,4-diene-1-yl)-4-fluorobenzene,
- (13) 4-(2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-4-methylpyrrol-yl)benzenesulfonamide, and
- (14) etoricoxib,
- (15) 4,4-dimethyl-2-phenyl-3-(methylsulfonylphenyl)cyclobutanone,
- (16) 5-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-6-phenyl[1,3]thiazolo[3,2-b][1,2,4]triazole,
- (17) 4-(6-fluoro-7-methoxy-3-trifluoromethylisothiochromeno[4,3-c]pyrazol-1(5H)-yl)benzenesulfonamide, and
- (18) licofelone
- (19) 4-[5-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (20) N-acetyl-4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (21) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-chloromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (22) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (23) 4-[5-(2-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (24) 4-[5-(3-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

- (25) 4-[5-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (26) 4-[5-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (27) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-n-propyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (28) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-ethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (29) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-isopropyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (30) 4-[5-phenyl-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (31) 4-[5-(2-methoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (32) 4-[5-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (33) 4-[5-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (34) 4-[5-(3-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (35) 4-[5-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (36) 4-[5-(2-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

- (37) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
 - (38) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,
 - (39) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,
 - (40) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,
 - (41) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,
 - (42) 5-(4-methylphenyl)-1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazole,
 - (43) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
 - (44) 4-[5-(3-pyridyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
 - (45) 4-[5-methyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)isoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide, and
 - (46) 5-methyl-3-phenyl-4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)isoxazole,
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The ~~large conductance calcium-activated K-channel opener~~ method according to claim 1, wherein

the opener contains a compound selected from the group consisting of

- (1) celecoxib,
- (2) rofecoxib,
- (3) valdecoxib,
- (10) 4-(2-methyl-4-phenyloxazol-5-yl)benzenesulfonamide,
- (21) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-chloromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,
- (22) 4-[5-(4-methylphenyl)-3-methyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,
- (23) 4-[5-(2-methylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (36) 4-[5-(2-fluorophenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (37) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (43) 4-[5-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]benzenesulfonamide,
- (44) 4-[5-(3-pyridyl)-3-trifluoromethyl-1H-pyrazol-1-yl]-benzenesulfonamide,
- (45) 4-[5-methyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)isoxazol-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as an active ingredient.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) ~~A large conductance calcium-activated K-channel opener~~ The method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the ~~opener is an agent for the prophylaxis or treatment of~~ mammal has pollakiuria or urinary incontinence.